

**PHOENIX FIELD OFFICE
NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT (NEPA)
COMPLIANCE RECORD FOR CATEGORICAL EXCLUSIONS (CX)**

Proposed Action Title/Type: Right-of-Way existing 12kV powerline for APS

NEPA#: AZ-210-2005-0062

Related #: AZA-33097 (Casefile number)

Location of Proposed Action: T. 12 N., R. 3 W., sec. 32, N½SW¼. (USGS Quad Map is *Walnut Grove*)

Travel north of Wickenburg on Highway 93 to intersection of Highway 89 go North 30 miles to Wagoner Road then east 5.1 miles to dirt road go 0.6 mile to the site. The site is approximately 4.5 miles southeast of Kirkland Junction

Description of Proposed Action: Arizona Public Service(APS) has an existing 12kV The proposed action is to issue a right-of-way for a 30 year term. The area they would be authorized to use is 20 feet wide and 1589.50 feet long. This is approximately .73 acre in size.

A cultural survey was completed on June 29, 2005 by EnviroSystems Management Inc.. No significant impacts anticipated.

PART I - PLAN CONFORMANCE REVIEW

This proposed action is subject to the following land use plan: The Phoenix Resource Management Plan (RMP) approved on September 29, 1989: This proposed action has been reviewed for conformance with this plan (*43 CFR 1610.5-3, BLM Manual 1601.04.C.2*).

PART II - CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION

A. Verification of Listing: This proposed action qualifies as a categorical exclusion under Department Manual (DM) 516 6, Chapter 11,E. (12). (Grants of right-of-way wholly within the boundaries of other compatibly developed rights-of-way.)

And

B. Exception Review: 516 DM 2.3A(3), Appendix 2 provides for the review of the following criteria to determine if exceptions apply to this project.

IMPORTANT: Appropriate staff should determine exception, comment and initial for concurrence. If exceptions apply to the action or project, and existing NEPA documentation does not address the exception, then further NEPA analysis is required.

NOTE: The comments received from the Phoenix Field Office Natural Resource Specialist (Mr. Tim Hughes), the Phoenix Field Office Outdoor Recreation Planner (Mr. Rich Hanson) and Phoenix Field Office Archaeologist (Ms. Connie Stone) are attached for reference. I have provided my initial on their behalf as a result of the comments they provided. The comments on the cultural review are based on the survey completed by EnviroSystems.

CRITERIA	COMMENT (yes/no)	STAFF INITIAL
1. Has significant adverse effects on public health and safety.	No	LLM
2. Adversely affects unique geographic characteristics as historic or cultural resources, parks, recreation or refuge lands, wilderness areas, wilderness study areas, wild and scenic rivers, sole or principal drinking water aquifers, prime farmlands, wetlands, flood plains, or ecologically significant or critical areas, including those listed on the Department of the Interior National Register of Natural	No	LLM (Based on the Attached Comments)

Landmarks.		
3. Has highly controversial environmental effects.	No	LLM
4. Has highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involves unique or unknown environmental risks.	No	LLM
5. Establishes a precedent for future action or represents a decision in principle about a future action with potentially significant environmental effects.	No	LLM
6. Is related to other actions with individually insignificant, but cumulatively significant effects.	No	LLM (Based on the Attached Comments)
7. Adversely affects properties listed or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic places.	No	LLM (Based on the Attached Comments)
8. Affects a species listed or proposed to be listed in the List of Endangered or Threatened Species or adversely affects the species critical habitat.	No	LLM (Based on the Attached Comments)
9. Requires compliance with Executive Order 11988 Flood Plain Management, 11990 Protection for Wetlands, or the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act.	No	LLM (Based on the Attached Comments)
10. Threatens to violate a Federal, State, local, or Tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment	No	LLM (Based on the Attached Comments)

PART III - SIGNATURES FOR COMPLIANCE

PREPARER: /s/ Linda L. Mullenix
Linda L. Mullenix, Realty Specialist

DATE: 07/19/2005

REVIEWER: /s/ Jim Andersen
Jim Andersen, Team Lead for Lands & Realty

DATE: 07/20/2005

PART IV - DECISION

I have reviewed this plan conformance and NEPA compliance record and have determined that the proposed project is in conformance with the approved land use plan and that no further environmental analysis is required. It is my decision to implement the project, as described, with the mitigation measures identified below.

MITIGATION MEASURES/OTHER REMARKS: The grant will be issued with the following measures:

1. All applicable regulations in accordance with 43 CFR 2800.
2. Any cultural and/or paleontological resources (historic or prehistoric site or object) discovered by the holder or any person working on the holders behalf, on public or federal land shall be immediately reported to the authorized officer. The holder shall suspend all operations in the immediate area of of such discovery until written authorization to proceed is issued by the authorized officer. An evaluation of the discovery will be made by the authorized officer to determine the appropriate actions to prevent loss of significant cultural or scientific values. The holder will be responsible for the cost of the evaluation

and any decision as to the proper mitigation measures will be made by the authorized officer after consulting with the holder.

ATTACHMENTS: A location map is attached for reference, in addition to the resource specialist's comments referenced in Part II, page 1.

APPROVING OFFICIAL: /s/ MarLynn Spears DATE: 07/20/2005
For Teri Raml, Field Manager